#### § 160.133-21

a lifeboat and rescue boat and/or near launching appliances on vessels.

# § 160.133–21 Operation and maintenance instructions.

- (a) Each release mechanism must have operation and maintenance instructions that—
- (1) Follows the general format and content specified in IMO MSC.1 Circ. 1205 (incorporated by reference, see §160.133-5 of this subpart); and
- (2) Includes a checklist for use in monthly, external visual inspections of the release mechanism.
- (b) The release mechanism manufacturer must make the manual required by paragraph (a) of this section available in English to purchasers of a release mechanism approved by the Coast Guard.
- (c) The operation and maintenance instructions required by paragraph (a) of this section may be combined with similar material for survival craft and rescue boats, and their launching systems.

# § 160.133-23 Procedure for approval of design, material, or construction change.

- (a) Each change in design, material, or construction from the plans approved under 46 CFR 159.005–13 and §160.133–13(h) of this subpart must be approved by the Commandant before being used in any production release mechanism. The manufacturer must submit any such change following the procedures set forth in §160.133–9 of this subpart, but documentation on items that are unchanged from the plans approved under 46 CFR 159.005–13 and §160.133–13(h) of this subpart need not be resubmitted.
- (b) Unless determined by the Commandant to be unnecessary, a prototype release mechanism with each change described in paragraph (a) of this section must be made and tested according to the procedures for new approvals in §§ 160.133–9 through 160.133–13 of this subpart.
- (c) Determinations of equivalence of design, material, or construction will be made by the Commandant only.

## Subpart 160.135—Lifeboats

SOURCE: USCG-2010-0048, 76 FR 62987, Oct. 11, 2011, unless otherwise noted.

### § 160.135-1 Scope.

This subpart prescribes standards, tests, and procedures for seeking Coast Guard approval of a lifeboat.

#### § 160.135-3 Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in the IMO LSA Code (incorporated by reference, see §160.135-5 of this subpart), in this subpart, the term:

Commandant means the Chief of the Lifesaving and Fire Safety Standards Division. Address: Commandant (CG-ENG-4), Attn: Lifesaving and Fire Safety Division, U.S. Coast Guard Stop 7509, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20593-7509; telephone 202-372-1392 or fax 202-372-1924.

Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic (FRP) means a composite structural material formed by electrical-grade glass fibers in Coast Guard accepted catalyst activated resin.

Full load means the weight of the complete lifeboat including all required equipment, provisions, fuel, and the number of persons for which it is approved. This is also known as the "condition B" weight.

Independent laboratory has the same meaning as 46 CFR 159.001–3. A list of accepted independent laboratories is available from the Commandant and online at http://cgmix.uscg.mil.

Light load means the weight of the complete lifeboat empty and does not include fuel, required equipment, or the equivalent weight of persons. This is also known as the "condition A" weight.

Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI) means an officer of the Coast Guard designated as such by the Commandant and who fulfills the duties described in 46 CFR 1.01–15(b). The "cognizant OCMI" is the OCMI who has immediate jurisdiction over a vessel or geographic area for the purpose of performing the duties previously described.

Positive Stability means the condition of a lifeboat such that when it is displaced a small amount in any direction